



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

No. 165

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARIA CANTWELL, a Senator from the State of Washington.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer.

Let us pray.

O God, our Father, we wait to serve You as You desire. Make us alert to the needs of those lives You seek to touch. Lead us to opportunities to transform hurting people, bringing relief to captives and comfort to the oppressed.

Empower Your Senators in this endeavor. Use them as ambassadors of reconciliation. Give them such winsome dispositions that they will bless even those who are hard of heart and withered in spirit. May they comfort those who are brought low by sorrow, and lift those who are bowed by life's burden. Use them to inspire those who walk through the valley of shadows.

We pray in Your precious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARIA CANTWELL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 29, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable MARIA CANTWELL, a Senator from the State of Washington, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Ms. CANTWELL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for 90 minutes, with the first hour under the control of Senator BOXER and the remaining 30 minutes under the control of the Republicans.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Amtrak legislation. While no rollcall votes will occur today, Members should be here to offer amendments, if they have any, to this legislation.

As a reminder, a bipartisan cloture motion was filed on the Amtrak legislation. Members should file all germane amendments by 3:30 today.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 2247

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that S. 2247 is at the desk and is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2247) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the depreciation classification of motorsports entertainment complexes.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that my remarks not count against the time of Senator BOXER or the Republicans.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PASSING THE ENERGY BILL

Mr. REID. Madam President, last night, temperatures fell in many parts of the east coast and, frankly, even the west coast has been getting cold. It was cold in Searchlight. I talked to my brother this morning and he had to start his fire. Searchlight is much colder than Las Vegas. In parts of northern Nevada, it has been very cold.

All over America, and this morning in the DC area, for the first time this year, people had to reach into their closets for scarves, heavier suits, and even coats for the first time this season. In other parts of the country, there have been colder days earlier. In DC, this is the first one we have gotten.

In Las Vegas, even though it still reaches the high 80s during the day this time of year, even now you can feel an overnight chill in the air. There are parts of Nevada that are really cold. We have had freezing weather in Ely and Elko already this year.

As the temperature falls all over the country, we begin to think about the cost of heating our homes for the winter. That cost has risen steadily during the 7 years of the Bush administration, and we have become even more dependent on fossil fuel.

This morning, as our thoughts turned toward the cold months ahead, the price of oil rose to an all-time record of \$93 a barrel. If we don't turn the tide by

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S13497